

Remarks:

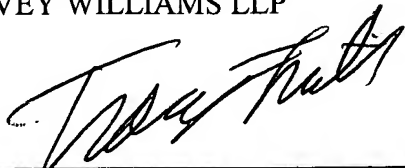
Pursuant to the restriction requirement, applicant provisionally elects Group I for prosecution at this time and traverses the restriction between Groups I, III, and IV. The claims of Group II will be pursued in a divisional application. Additionally, claim 51 has been added. Thus, claims 1-10 and 12-51 remain for consideration in this application.

In support of examining Groups I, III, and IV together as a single group include the fact that all claims relate to determining the presence and/or activity levels of active drugs in fluid samples using an assay capable of such a determination. For the claims of Group I, an enzyme assay is used, for Group III, an assay utilizing ligand binding is used and Group IV is not limited to either the enzyme or receptor assay. To demonstrate their similarities, a new independent claim (51) has been drafted. Such an invention embodied in these claims eliminates the need to develop antibody-based assays for drugs which cannot determine the activity levels of the drugs. It is believed that claim 51 is generic to Groups I, III, and IV and therefore, applicant requests that these claims be examined together.

Any additional fee which is due in connection with this Petition should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522. In view of the foregoing, a Notice of Allowance appears to be in order and such is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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